



State of Utah

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NEWS RELEASE

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UTAH ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN ANNUAL ARBOR DAY POSTER CONTEST

Winning Schools Each Receive \$500 Cash Award

Utah elementary schools are invited to participate in Utah's annual Arbor Day poster contest. Schools in four regions with first place winners will each receive \$500 to be used any way they wish. Student winners receive U.S. Savings bonds and framed certificates. Registration deadline is February 5, 2007.

"This year marks the 20th anniversary of our statewide poster contest," said Meridith Perkins, chairman of the Utah Arbor Day Committee. "The contest has proved itself to be a fun way for children to learn of the importance of trees in our communities." The theme of this year's Arbor Day poster contest is "Trees are terrific... and forests are too!"

Students in kindergarten through sixth-grade, plus special education students, are asked to create a poster utilizing the theme and following a set of criteria. Schools conduct individual judging and submit one poster from each grade to the Utah Arbor Day Committee. A panel then judges those posters and winners are awarded prizes during annual Arbor Day celebrations held at several locations statewide during the month of April. The grand prize poster is distributed statewide and the winning fifth-grade poster is entered in the National Arbor Day Poster Contest.

Registration materials are now being sent to principals and Arbor Day coordinators throughout the state. Teachers and schools not receiving registration materials in the mail, or desiring additional information, should contact the Utah Arbor Day Committee at the Division of Forestry, Fire and State Lands in Salt Lake City at (801) 538-5555, or at www.arborday.utah.gov

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